

PROCEEDINGS
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A NEW BAT FROM MEXICO.

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Through the kindness of Dr. James B. Rorer of the Trinidad Department of Agriculture, the Museum of Comparative Zoology has lately received a fine series of alcoholic bats of the emballonurid genus *Rhynchiscus*, collected by Mrs. Rorer on the Caroni River, in the Island of Trinidad. These excellent specimens have led me to make comparison with specimens from eastern Brazil and from the Yucatan Peninsula in the Museum collection. The type locality of Wied's *Vespertilio naso* is the east coast of Brazil, whence the species ranges north-westward into southern Mexico. At the present time, although three other species have been named (*rivalis* and *saxatilis* from Brazil, and *lineata* from Surinam), these are all currently referred as synonyms to *R. naso*. A very careful comparison between the Trinidad specimens and a series from Porto Seguro, Brazil, assumed to be typical of *naso*, fails to show any important structural character whereby the two series may be distinguished. Four specimens from Quintana Roo, southern Mexico, however, differ conspicuously from the Brazilian examples in their smaller skulls and in the form of the anterior upper premolar, which in typical *naso* is a narrow, slender, lancet-shaped tooth without a distinct cingulum cusp, whereas in the Mexican skulls this tooth in side view is broadly triangular with a distinct cingulum cusp anteriorly and posteriorly. This well-marked race I propose to recognize as

Rhynchiscus naso priscus subsp. nov.

Type.—Skin and skull No. 13,208, Museum of Comparative Zoology, from Xcopen, Quintana Roo, Mexico; collected February 18, 1912, by James Lee Peters.

General characters.—Similar to typical *naso* of eastern Brazil, but forearm averaging very slightly smaller; skull much smaller in size; the anterior upper premolar relatively broad with conspicuous cingulum cusp anteriorly and posteriorly.

Color.—Top and sides of the head and the back a mixture of black hairs and of "mummy-brown" hairs with minute white tips, the latter becoming more conspicuous on the lower back so as to produce a broken whitish band transversely. The femora and tibiae, the free portion of the tail, and the proximal half of the interfemoral membrane clothed with rusty hairs (nearly "amber brown" of Ridgway, 1912). At the base of the forearm, internally, is a conspicuous patch of short white hair. A line of rusty hair borders the proximal third or more of the forearm externally, beyond which are some four small tufts of whitish and buff hairs at 2 or 3 mm. apart. The ventral surface of the body is dull whitish slightly washed with buffy on the belly, the hairs everywhere blackish or slaty at their bases. A small tuft of whitish hairs is present at the anterior base of each ear.

Skull and teeth.—The skull differs strikingly from that of Brazilian specimens in its smaller size and narrower rostrum, and relatively longer and narrower postorbital region. These differences though sufficiently apparent to the eye are difficult to express in millimeters in so small skulls. The anterior upper premolar is characteristic. In Brazilian specimens, representing true *naso*, this is a slender lancet-shaped tooth, its tip slightly exceeding the cingulum cusp of the canine. It is without trace of a cingulum cusp at either side in some specimens, though in others the posterior cusp is faintly indicated. The tooth is separated from the canine by a space about equal to its own diameter, and from the posterior premolar by about twice that distance. In *R. n. priscus* this tooth is broad, and its crown is in lateral outline nearly an equilateral triangle, the apex of which considerably exceeds the cusp of the canine. A conspicuous cingulum cusp is present at both the anterior and the posterior ends; while so broad is the tooth that it is nearly in contact with the canine.

Measurements.—The forearm of the type measures 38.5 mm. In the four specimens from the type locality this dimension averages 38.0 mm. (37.2–39). In the Brazilian specimens it is very slightly more and averages 39.8 in five specimens (38.5–41). The following measurements are from an alcoholic topotype (14,637) and those in parentheses are from a specimen from Porto Seguro, Brazil, representing true *naso*: end of snout to tip of tail, 53 (58); tail, 13 (13.5); tibia, 14.5 (14.5); hind foot with claws, 7.4 (7.3); calcaneum, 19.5 (19.5); forearm, 38.2 (39); second metacarpal, 34 (34); third metacarpal, 37 (36.2); fourth metacarpal, 32 (32); fifth metacarpal, 31 (29).

Skull of the type (and of a Brazilian specimen in parentheses): greatest length, 12 (12.6); basal length, 9.9 (10.3); zygomatic width, 7.2 (7.7); mastoid width, 6.5 (6.8); interorbital constriction, 2.3 (2.7); upper tooth row (front of canine to back of last molar), 4.6 (5); lower tooth row (front of canine to back of last molar), 4.8 (5).

Remarks.—The geographical limits of this race I have not traced. Probably it is found throughout most of middle America. In his work on the families and genera of bats (Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus., No. 57, p. 88, 1907) Mr. G. S. Miller, Jr., figures a skull from the Escondido River, Nicaragua, and evidently bases his diagnosis of the genus on the specimen, since he mentions particularly the large anterior upper premolar, with its crown in outline nearly an isosceles triangle. This character, as I have shown, is found in the race *priscus*, but not in the bat of eastern South America. Probably the specimens from Quintana Roo are from nearly the northern limit of the species.